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General Assembly

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Fifty-fifth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 114 (b)
Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Afghanistan, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Venezuela: draft resolution

Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/144 of 9 December 1998 by which it adopted the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, annexed to that resolution,

Reiterating the importance of the Declaration and its promotion and implementation,

Welcoming the decision by the Commission on Human Rights requesting the Secretary-General to appoint, for a period of three years, a special representative who shall report on the situation of human rights defenders in all parts of the world and on possible ways to enhance their protection in full compliance with the Declaration,

Welcoming also the Secretary-General's appointment of a special representative on human rights defenders,

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Noting with deep concern that, in many countries, persons and organizations engaged in promoting and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms are facing threats, harassment and insecurity as a result of those activities,

1. *Calls upon* all States to promote and give effect to the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms;

2. *Invites* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the special representative in fulfilling her mandate;

3. *Requests* all concerned United Nations agencies and organizations to provide all possible assistance and support to the representative in the implementation of her programme of activities;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders;[1]

5. *Calls upon* the Commission on Human Rights to consider at its fifty-seventh session the report to be prepared by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General pursuant to Commission resolution 2000/61;

6. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

[1] A/55/292.